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Alliances + Territory (LushClan only)

Leader:

Frogstar - A black Tom with green eyes

Deputy:

Roottail - A mottled brown Tom with yellow eyes and yellow paws

Medicine Cat:

Stemshine - A pale tortoiseshell she-cat with yellow eyes

Warriors:

Featherleap - A light gray she-cat with blue eyes

Timberfoot - A dark brown Tom with amber eyes

Darkclaw - A black Tom with blue eyes

Bumbletail - A gray Tom with black stripes on his tail and yellow eyes

Falconcall - A light brown Tom with yellow eyes

Anacondawhisker - A light brown she-cat with deep brown spots and green eyes

Vinewhisper - A light gray she-cat with green eyes and a black paw

Apprentices:

Flickerpaw - A black Tom with dark orange spots and amber eyes

(Mentored by Darkclaw)

Ravinepaw - A black Tom with amber eyes (Mentored by Falconcall)

Quailpaw - A gray she-cat with white and light-gray paws and blue eyes (Mentored by Stemshine)

Queens:

Sweetcloud - A white she-cat with unusual pink eyes

Frozenwing - A light gray she-cat with a gray paw and bright blue eyes

Kits:

Sunkit - A mottled brown Tom with a white paw and yellow eyes

Flowerkit - A white she-cat with yellow stripes on his legs and tail and yellow eyes

Glowkit - A white she-cat with one pink eye and one yellow eye and a yellow ear

Whiskerkit - A light-gray Tom with blue eyes

Elders:

Brackenclaw - A dark brown Tom with green eyes

Mousetail - A deep gray Tom whom is blind

TERRITORY

A jungle with towering trees that seem to be touching the clouds, you are trained to beware of quicksand and larger predators than you.

[image]

Prologue

Frogstar the newly appointed leader gazed at StarClan's hunting grounds with awe but it was easily starting to drift away until he was left, gazing at a shadowed cat. His tail quivered as he watched the cat approach him and do one loop around him.

"Frogstar..." The cat whispered. "One you trust is not who they seem, watch your back, watch your clan, this cat hides in plain sight but you cannot see them..." And with that everything came rushing back, he was in the cavern again next to the Star River, he got up with a stretch and looked at the medicine cat who seemed to be getting up as well.

The two left the cavern and started to cross MurkClan territory but the only thing that was on the new leaders mind was what that cat said.

...

"One you trust is not who they seem, watch your back, watch your clan, this cat hides in plain sight but you cannot see them"

Chapter One

Glowkit was sleeping peacefully until it was interrupted by a rough jab in her side, grumbling she rolled over and opened her eyes, and glared at her brother Sunkit who had is paw outstretched towards her.

"You've been sleeping all day! Come outside" He complained. Glowkit sighed and pushed herself to her paws unhappily before stumbling outside into the glaring light, wincing she made out her sister Flowerkit bounding towards her. "You're awake" She cheered as Sunkit padded over to Whiskerkit. "Have you seen Flickerpaw? I heard he caught a massive rabbit during a hunting patrol!" She grinned practically hopping up and down. "You need to stop mooning over him" Glowkit rolled her eyes padding over to a smooth stone in the sun and sitting on it.

"Well I know we're destined to be mates one day and I know it!" Flowerkit lashed her tail. "Plus when I'm an apprentice which is a moon from now he'll finally notice me!" She leaped up beside Glowkit and nudged her. "He's *three* moons older than you! He'll be a warrior before you can even complete apprenticeship"

"He'll still have to notice me!" Flowerkit objected. "Wait! Wait! Look there he is!" She gasped waving her tail like a mousebrain. Glowkit followed her gaze and looked at Flickerpaw before back at her sister's warm gaze. "Your a mousebrain he's never going to notice you like you look at him" She sighed before leaving Flowerkit alone.

Before she could even call to the two Toms wrestling on the ground a cry of grief shot through the clearing making her jump. Sunkit scrambled up and Whiskerkit got up after him looking mildly alarmed. The cry happened again before Frozenwing gathered all

four kits and pushed them into the nursery. "What's happening?" Flowerkit asked looking panicked as to what had happened on such a fine day. "You'll figure out soon enough dear" Frozenwing nudged them back and exited the den.

"You look scared- Sunkit look your sister is scared" Whiskerkit stuck his small tongue out at Glowkit but she ignored it but soon heard scuffling as Sunkit began to play fight with him again. Glowkit approached the front of the den trying to listen for what was happening. "My kits can't see him like this! Help him get better please!" She heard her mother's voice outside of the den, she seemed to be begging someone to help.

"He already has an infection but i'll try my best, bring him to my den" This time it was Stemshine's voice, Glowkit recognized it from when her brother got bitten by a bullet ant. She turned back to the other kits. "Someone's injured" She called, Flowerkit's eyes widened. "Who is it? Please don't tell me it's-"

"It's not Flickerpaw" Glowkit rolled her eyes. "It's someone else but their not saying who" She watched as Flowerkit sighed and padded to the back of the den. Glowkit followed and got into her own nest before throwing a small stick at the two toms. "Be quiet" She hissed before curling up in her nest comfortably.

It was early in the morning when a shriek of grief and agony cut through the camp. Glowkit looked up groggily before stumbling out of the den only to notice it was coming from the medicine den, she stumbled there as well before listening closely as she noticed it was her mother who was uncontrollably sobbing. "We'll have the vigil tonight, would you like to tell your kits?" Stemshine's voice spoke calmly but behind it was grief as well. "Yes- I would..." Her mother seemed to choke out. Glowkit quickly scrambled back to the nursery and into her nest like nothing had happened.

She watched her mother enter the den, her paw steps were heavy as she dragged her paws across the ground with each movement. "Flowerkit, Sunkit, wake up" She mewed as Frozenwing quickly entered and nudged Whiskerkit awake before nudging him out of the den quickly.

Glowkit watched her siblings stir and stare at their mother who seemed to heartbroken to say anything but she still spoke. "Your father has passed... to a unknown murderer" her mother watched as the light faded in their kits eyes as the news was passed on. Sunkit opened his mouth but closed it before curling into a ball, their father was the deputy of LushClan an important cat, but why him? Glowkit settled next to her sister and pressed against her breathing slowly.

A while after the news was broken to the three cats a meeting was called. "Let all cats old enough to hunt gather around the Fallen Tree to hear what I have to say!" Frogstar's voice rang throughout the clearing, Glowkit and the other kits in the nursery peered outside before sitting a fair distance away from the other cats with their mothers.

"It has all come to notice that my deputy Roottail was... murdered..." Frogstar paused casting a glance at the kits which seemed directly to Glowkit. "I have chosen a cat who has caught my eye to take his place" He continued as Glowkit looked at her mother, growing anger was in her eyes but the young kit couldn't figure out why.

"I say these words before the Great Spirits of the Jungle so that they may hear and approve of my choice, *Darkclaw* will be the new deputy of LushClan!" He announced, cats seemed to cheer but it was unspoken that they didn't like him.

After the meeting Glowkit sat beside her sister who was once again staring at Flickerpaw. "I wonder if he feels bad for me..." Flowerkit whispered as she sat beside her. "I think he feels bad for all of us especially our mother, did you hear her yowls for the last two nights?" She rolled her eyes. "Hey he might still notice me!" Flowerkit objected but sighed. "You're right he probably feels bad for all of us"

Glowkit notice Darkclaw and Flickerpaw sitting together, the new deputy was speaking with him as the apprentice listened. "The gathering is two days from now and Whiskerkit is going to be made an apprentice before us!" Sunkit jumped in nearly scaring both them to death. He seemed unhappy with the fact that his denmate was

leaving to be an apprentice.

"At least I won't have to deal with his annoying trap! Have you heard him talk about me lately?" Glowkit narrowed her eyes at her brother in disgust. "I don't get how you can cooperate with his cocky attitude I mean come on!"

"He's only mean to you! I'm on his good side!" Sunkit stuck his tongue out at her, Glowkit smacked a pebble that was sitting on a larger stone nearby and it hit his chest. "Hey!" Sunkit hissed before leaping at her, barreling into Glowkit he wrestled with her before Sweetcloud grabbed her scruff and pulled her away.

"You're five moons old both you and your acting like your two!" She hissed placing Glowkit down. "We are five moons" Sunkit glared at their mother, he had gotten over the death of their father but he started to despise their mother. "Then act like it" She snarled. "I'm done with your attitude! Go to the nursery and stay there" Sweetcloud continued to throw insults at him as he padded away, his tail twitching with annoyance.

Glowkit backed away from her mother and fled to the nursery after her brother before squeezing through a small opening in the back and pushing into her secret part of the den, she huddled down and curled into a ball before drifting to sleep with one last thought on her mind.

What has become of my mother...?

Chapter Two

Glowkit woke up the next morning to a meeting called. Right this was Whiskerkit's apprentice ceremony, she squeezed out from her spot and yawned as she exited the nursery. She gazed up at the towering trees, colorful birds sat on the lower branches cheering out their beautiful tunes, unaware of the dangerous world around them. Glowkit sat beside her siblings as Whiskerkit looked a bit drenched as he was recently groomed to the point he looked like a smooth fish, it was almost hilarious but she kept her mouth shut knowing that would probably happen to her when it was her ceremony time.

"Whiskerkit please come forward!" Frogstar looked down at the kit who began walking forward. "This kit has reached the age of six moons and is now ready to be mentored!" He began, Whiskerkit seemed to be kneading the soft earth out of pure nervousness as he listened to the leader speak the long held words. "Whiskerkit until you earn your warrior name you shall be known as Whiskerpaw! Timberfoot shall teach you the knowledge of the world and how to survive, I hope he does teach you well" Frogstar smiled warmly unknowingly to Darkclaw's glare that looked up at him.

"Clan dismissed!" The leader leaped off the Fallen Tree and entered his den. Soon after Darkclaw called patrols and sent them out, Timberfoot took Whiskerpaw on a border patrol so he could see the territory and now the kits were left in the camp with nothing to do.

Glowkit ignored what Sunkit and Flowerkit were doing as she scanned the walls, she noticed a small ledge on one of the walls with roots and vines connected to the wall close by. Being the curious cat she was, she approached the wall and gripped onto the soft but firm vines before pulling her weight up. As soon as Glowkit reached the edge she leaped off the vines and grabbed onto the edge of the flat piece of stone before hauling herself on top of it.

Peering down she saw how high she actually was, her stomach seemed to open like a pit as she wondered how to get down. She

looked back at the wall she climbed, the vines climbed even higher, all the way up to one of the towering jungle trees. Leaping towards the vines again she grabbed a hold of them and hauled herself further up until she reached the top of LushClan's camp.

She climbed on the edge of the wall and made her way down the side. Her siblings looked like pebbles in the ravine below. The more she went the more the cats looked like cats, she had gotten on a pathway and made it back down to the ravine, noticing there was a den in front of she went to the front of it and peered in side, her eyes widened with excitement it was the apprentices den. That meant when she was an apprentice she could exit camp whenever she wanted and explore. It felt amazing to her but she knew this was something she would have to keep for herself.

Glowkit got back to her siblings in which Flowerkit exclaimed. "Where did you go!?" She barreled into Glowkit. "I went on a walk around camp" She lied. "Oh- Sunkit thought a snake ate you" Flowerkit looked at Sunkit with a glare, he seemed to just shrug in response.

"The Gathering is tomorrow night and I just wish I could go" Flowerkit started to complain like usual. "We should be old enough I mean come on!" Her tail lashed back and forth before Sunkit spoke up. "Maybe we can Flowerkit, I mean we could escape camp and follow their scent to the gathering to watch" After Sunkit said that Flowerkit only stared at him before jumping up and down. "That's perfect let's do it!" She grinned. Glowkit only yawned. "Me too although you can figure out *how* to escape while I take a nap, it's getting close to dusk anyways and patrols should be back soon" She mumbled before grabbing a small mouse and eating it quickly before trailing back to the nursery.

She entered and squeezed into the hidden spot in the back before curling up in the nest, drifting to sleep. All she could dream about was how she was going to escape the camp with her siblings to see a little silly gathering tomorrow and everything was going to be just... *fine*...

Chapter Three

Today it was going to be the night of the gathering, the moment Glowkit exited the den she could already tell the clan was buzzing with excitement, the only down soul seemed to be her mother Sweetcloud who was glaring so intently at Darkclaw who was speaking with Frogstar. She watched as a ball of moss rolled and hit her mothers leg, Glowkit turned her head and saw it, Sunkit had instantly froze as Sweetcloud turned her head. It only took a few moments for her to notice what happened before she was at it again. "Sunkit watch where your playing" The harshness came out as she spat at her kit, he looked down at his paws and mumbled an apology. Her mother caught Flowerkit's eyes before she started again. "Flowerkit you shouldn't be playing with him he's to rough for your own good"

Sunkit grabbed the moss ball and padded away before using the wall of the camp to play alone. That's when things started to escalate, Darkclaw approached her unknowingly and hissed. "That's your kit you know perhaps you should treat it with a bit more... kindness..." The menace in his voice must have thrown her mother over the edge because right after she pushed off of her hind-paws and barreled into the larger feline, with brute force of anger she was able to overpower him and shove him to the ground.

Glowkit yelped and bounded away from the fighting cats as other cats tried to get Sweetcloud off of the deputy. Her mother who was now below the deputy bent her hind-legs and pushed them into his stomach sending him off and into a long patch of grass in a corner. Darkclaw pushed himself out of the grass and shook himself off but his eyes only widened as Glowkit was watching him for a moment before she turned back to her mother, time seemed to slow down as Sweetcloud's nice pink eyes were now wild and unreadable. She

pinned Glowkit with one paw and snarled furiously. "This is your fault!" She screeched before only being able to bring down one paw to brutally smash it into the side of the young kit's face before she was tackled and brought off of Glowkit.

Darkness edged her vision as she watched Darkclaw holding her down hissing at her. "That's your kit!" That was the last piece of words she heard before it all jumbled up and vanished. Glowkit was left sitting in the shadows, everything was muffled, her head throbbed profusely. She began to wonder if her mother was ok. What had happened to make her this way? What would happen now? Would her mother be gone when she woke up?

A dim light began to be seen as Glowkit slowly opened her eyes, she started up at the roof of a den that which she recognized to be the medicine den the moment fresh stench of the herbs hit her. The throbbing in her head was still there, she could barely move her body it hurt so much. Soon there was a gasp and rushing paw steps. "Glowkit!" There was a cry of happiness in the cats voice, it took a moment before she realized it was Stemshine's. "I thought The Great Spirits would take you" She sighed,

"Your mother has been exiled, Darkclaw believes she should have been killed but Sunkit and Flowerkit are traumatized from you gaining your injury so it would probably would've made it worse" She informed the young kit. "How long has it been?" Glowkit croaked, her throat stung and the throbbing instantly got worse. "About eight days, you must be thirsty and hungry... Quailpaw! Go fetch some moss and soak it in water! Also get some prey!"

"Eight days...?" Glowkit seemed dazed, she missed the gathering, she missed eight days of stuff just to her mother. Before Stemshine could speak again Quailpaw came in and set down some moss that was dripping with water and a small but plump bird. "I'll leave you in peace right now, Darkclaw was worried for you i'll go tell him you're awake" The medicine cat left the den as Glowkit sat up and lapped at the moss feebly before taking a couple bites out of the bird.

Soon Darkclaw entered the medicine den and sat nearby, he looked down at Glowkit, his sharp gaze softening. "How are you managing

so far?" He asked now crouching down in a more comfortable position. "I'm... fine...." Glowkit spoke the best she could, the water and food felt amazing to her, it had been a while since she had anything. "I'm pretty sure Stemshine already told you this but your mother is exiled, everything will be alright..."

It had been at least two days since Glowkit had woken up and she was aloud to get out of the medicine den but couldn't do anything rough that had a chance of messing with her head again. Darkclaw had a softer demeanor towards her but didn't share it with any others. Glowkit didn't mind at all except when Whiskerpaw teased her about it, in which she hated because she thought she was free from his annoying teasing for at least another moon or so.

The days seemed to pass by, more and more cats came in injured and they insisted it was Sweetcloud who was coming after the clan for exiling her. Glowkit stayed on the watch, scared her mother would come back and finish what she started. As the days continued to pass Featherleap was expecting Darkclaw's kits and Glowkit began to hate to have another motherly like cat in the nursery.

Soon it happened the old words were called once more as Frogstar called a clan meeting. Featherleap had took it upon herself to groom each kit's fur. As the clan gathered below the Fallen Tree, Glowkit and her siblings were nudged to the front where they sat right there in the center of attention.

"These three kits have reached the age of six moons and are now ready to be mentored..." Frogstar began the ceremony smoothly. "Sunkit until you earn your warrior name you shall be known as Sunpaw, your mentor shall be Vinewhisper, I hope she teaches you the skills you need to be a warrior... Flowerkit until you earn your warrior name you shall be known as Flowerpaw, your mentor shall be Anacondawhisker, I hope she teaches you the skills she learned from Mousetail from his times as a warrior... and now Glowkit until you earn *your* warrior name you shall be known as Glowpaw, I will mentor you..."

Glowpaw's tail quivered with excitement, this was the best news ever, she was being mentored by the *leader* of LushClan not some

lowly warrior. The clan congratulated the three new apprentices before heading off to their dens. "With it being dusk we start training tomorrow" Frogstar smiled warmly before heading off to his own den.

She had seemed to have forgotten all about Flowerpaw's mooning sessions but she seemed to have one the moment Flickerpaw and his brother Ravinepaw came up to them. "We made sure to make you three a nest, come on" Flickerpaw spoke beckoning them with a flick of his tail, the three followed and they entered the apprentice's den.

Glowpaw's nest just had to be between Flickerpaw's and Whiskerpaw's but her sister seemed to glare at her more often because her nest was farther away from her crush's. Settling down and ignoring her sister glaring daggers into the back of her head she curled up and closed her eyes wondering what the clan had in store for her tomorrow.

Chapter Four

Glowpaw stirred and she sat up, gazing around the den she realized it was still dark out, looking at the other nests she noticed Flickerpaw's was empty. Slipping out of the den she went around it and climbed the slope that she had discovered when she was a kit. When she got to the top she looked down at the camp only to notice Flickerpaw was up here too. He flinched the moment he saw he but exhaled softly. "I thought you were someone else" He sighed looking at the camp. "You know of the pathway?"

Glowpaw nodded and sat down beside him. "My sister found this place, she was a warrior then but she's one the Great Spirits now, her name was Hopeheart and let me tell you she did spread hope in any way she could" Flickerpaw purred as he mentioned his long lost sister. "She died to a leopard while trying to protect Vinewhisper who was Vinepaw at the time"

Glowpaw dipped her head trying to act kind towards the older apprentice. Flickerpaw noticed and sighed. "You've gone through worse... I mean losing your father and then your mother goes crazy and is exiled... i'm surprised you got through all of that" Flickerpaw spoke his tail now resting over his paws. "I'm fine really" Glowpaw smiled warmly reassuring the older feline, he sighed again. "You sound like Brackenclaw" She teased and his eyes lit up as he laughed. "The first thing Whiskerpaw talked to me about was how I sigh to much and i'm to second coming Brackenclaw, now I know it's true, maybe that's what Darkclaw thinks of me"

Glowpaw felt warmth seep into her heart, she wanted to argue to Whiskerpaw saying clan life is good you just don't realize it but right now she was at peace, listening to the crickets and soft caws of awake birds in the jungle. "Whiskerpaw also had said some nasty things about you but really your the opposite of those Glowpaw, you have a kindhearted soul" Flickerpaw complimented her, his praise made her paws tingle, it never really came to her that any cat

thought of her as "kindhearted".

The two watched dawn slowly come and they headed down the slope back into the apprentice's den before getting into their own nests and falling asleep... When Glowpaw woke up again it was to Sunpaw roughly nudging her. "We're going to go explore the territory come on!" His gaze was full of excitement and energy all put together. She sighed and followed her brother out of the den, she looked at Frogstar who was standing next to Vinewhisper and Anacondawhisker.

"Alright, let's go" *Frogstar beckoned the group with them with the flick of his tail and they climbed up the rock ledges and out of camp. Glowpaw gazed at the towering trees of the jungle, they seemed the same to you as you've already been up in the territory multiple times but they still were a sight to see. Sunpaw bounded up to Glowpaw and started padding her. "I saw you and Flickerpaw entering the den at dawn" He whispered, she flinched. "Don't worry I won't tell Flowerpaw" He smiled mockingly at his sister who only glared at him. "You better not or your fur is lining my nest" She hissed.

He flattened his ears and rolled his eyes. "They'll exile you just like they did to *Sweetcloud*" Sunpaw spat out her name like it was a rotten piece of prey that he had just consumed. "She's still out there you know maybe she regrets-"

"No she doesn't regret anything, she gave you a horrible head injury for a couple days, i'll never forgive her" Sunpaw hissed as he interrupted her. Glowpaw sighed but they continued until they reached a boulder surrounded by shorter trees on one side and a open area near water on the far other. "Woah..." Flowerpaw breathed, staring in awe.

"This is the Border Rock, if you pass it on any side you know you've entered a place you're not supposed to be in" Anacondawhisker was the one to speak before Frogstar could. "Someone... wasted three days teaching me that" She narrowed her eyes at the clan leader, he only winced in return. "Anyways on the left of the boulder you have entered the Meeting Grounds and on the right is PalmClan territory" The she-cat continued what she was talking about. "And if I make

myself clear there is *NO* climbing on this boulder" She hissed shooting a sharp glare at Sunpaw who was gazing up at the boulder.

The group continued on until the unexpected happened, a white fluff of fur burst out from the bushes and straight into Sunpaw. There was a lot of shrieks and furious yowls before the quick moving cat was pinned down to the ground by Vinewhisper. Glowpaw ran over to her brother and nudged him, he was limp with a deep gash on his shoulder leading down to the middle section of his torso. She shook him profusely trying to get him to get up even though he was breathing it was shallow, Frogstar lightly pushed her away before leaning down and dragging her brother away towards camp.

Glowpaw soon heard hissing and a lot of commotion before the white mess of fur went darting after the clan leader. She pushed off her hind-paws just like she saw her mother do and barreled into the side of the cat and held them down just long enough so Anacondawhisker and Vinewhisper could help.

Anacondawhisper raised a paw and brutally slammed it down onto the back of her head, the cats eyes rolled back and they were unconscious. It only took her a moment to realize who it was, the cat below her, was her mother.

The rest of the patrol got back, Flowerpaw had instantly went into the medicine cats den while Darkclaw approached Glowpaw. "I heard you attacked and pinned Sweetcloud without hesitation... i'm proud and i'm sure Roottail is as well, you stopped Frogstar and Sunpaw from getting hurt" He smiled warmly, there it was again, that strange kindness he had for her. Glowpaw returned the smiled before looking up to see Frogstar leaping up onto the Fallen Tree.

"Let all cats old enough to hunt gather beneath the Fallen Tree to hear what I have to say!" He yowled, his voice ringing out throughout the clearing. Many cats were already there and sat down but others emerged from their dens and joined the cats already there, that including Flickerpaw and his brother Ravinepaw who came and sat down with Glowpaw.

"I'm sure most of you saw the commotion of Sunpaw one of the newer apprentices but I would like to point out who did it..." Frogstar's eyes flashed with anger as he looked at Anacondawhisker and then her paws where the unconscious Sweetcloud lied. "Sweetcloud was still in our territory and got hold of the poor apprentice, and especially that "poor apprentice" being her son" He spat his tail beginning lash. "We would have not been able to catch this attacker though if Glowpaw hadn't helped" The sudden praise and attention felt odd to her as she felt eyes turn towards her before back to Frogstar. "She tackled her own mother to protect me and her brother from getting more hurt then he already was" He smiled and other cats included other praises such as 'good job' or 'well done'.

"Clan dismissed, Timberfoot you're guarding Sweetcloud for the night" He ordered before slipping into his own den. Glowpaw left the clearing and went to the apprentices den in which Flickerpaw followed behind. "You did well! I mean... protecting your brother *and* the leader is amazing" Flickerpaw smiled warmly. Glowpaw returned the smile. "Thanks"

She sat down and got in a laying position in her nest before sighing. "I'm probably going to head to sleep early" She rested her head down on the soft moss before curling her tail close to her body. "Alright" Flickerpaw meowed. "I'm getting something to eat" With that the rattle of bushes sounded and then silence echoed throughout the den.

Glowpaw closed her eyes, she was just hoping her brother would survive, she just hoped that she would see his eyes lit up with energy once more...

Chapter Five

Glowpaw woke up again, she rose her head up and looked around, everyone was still sleeping. Getting up from her nest she slipped outside and looked at the stars which were starting to fade with dawn light seeping in. She wondered if Sunpaw would ever see the light of day or shadows of the night ever again, she casted a glance over at the medicine den, it was stationed between two larger boulders with a couple bushes and vines making up the actual den.

As Glowpaw approached it the soft tang of herbs that had grown familiar to her from her time there had grown stronger until she peeked inside the gloomy den. Surprisingly Stemshine was awake and sitting near Sunpaw who seemed to be still unconscious from their mother's attack. The medicine cat looked at her before getting up and shooing her out of the den and back into the clearing.

"Your brother needs time to heal, I know you're worried but I don't want him waking up and seeing you all well and I know you three are a bit... competitive... when it comes to apprenticeship" Stemshine licked the top of Glowpaw's head reassuringly before reentering her den. Glowpaw only stared after her, it only made her feel weird as she seemed like she cared more about him then her own feelings, she just ignored the strange twinge and headed back to the apprentices den and went behind it, climbing up the rocky slope like she had done a couple days ago.

She sat on the edge and looked down at the vacant area, before she heard voices in the jungle. Glowpaw flinched at first before she crouched down and approached slowly, that's when she hid under a thick-leaved berry bush in hearing distance. "I heard your clan caught Sweetcloud" A mysterious cat seemed to speak menacingly.

"We did, I know we're in need to get her out of there but she wouldn't trust me one bit" A cat answered, Glowpaw instantly knew who it was but she continued to listen to the conversation.

"Adder might actually be pleased for once, I remember him telling Eel how much she agitated him because of her connections to your silly little *clan*" The cat chuckled, he must of brushed his tail over the leaves because there was a soft ruffle in the foliage. "Well Frogstar exiled her when she attacked her own kit, Glowpaw"

The mystery cat scoffed. "Glowpaw is nothing more than a brat in the way to our success, if she's smart she'll stay out of our way" The cat Glowpaw knew spoke again. "She's too simple to even try stopping us and when I take over LushClan she will certainly follow, I just have to kill Frogstar, he recently told me he's on one life and doesn't want to put LushClan into harms way" The cat coughed out a laugh. "You better hurry up then before he figures out it was you" The LushClan cat grumbled. "I will, go tell Adder that LushClan will be on *his* side soon" The sound of crunching undergrowth went off as the two cats padded away from each other, ending the conversation. Glowpaw sneaked back to camp hoping not to be seen but she couldn't help but wonder why *Darkclaw* was talking to a rouge.

She entered the apprentice's den and lied down in her nest, curling up tightly to hide away from everything. Too much had happened in her apprenticeship so far and it seemed like it wasn't going to end soon...

The sun rised a while later and sunlight started to trickle through the gaps in the den. Glowpaw sat up and stretched before leaving the others to wake up on their own, the moment she pushed out of the vine laced den she noticed Frogstar speaking the medicine cat. When he looked up he only seemed to have an unreadable look in his eyes when he saw her. Glowpaw ignored the strange look and grabbed a piece of fresh-kill off of the pile, she dragged it over to a spot near the apprentices den and bit into it.

Glowpaw continued to watch other cats emerge from their slumbers, seeming unknowing about what had happened while they were so peacefully sleeping in their warm woven nest. She finished

her prey and looked around only to notice Anacondawhisker and Frozenwing approaching with Flowerpaw at their side.

"We're going hunting!" Flowerpaw announced but she didn't seem that excited as she casted a hurt glance at the medicine den before looking back at her sister. "Well first you have the learn the basics of hunting and the dangers that can go with it" Frozenwing smiled but Flowerpaw's mentor rolled her eyes. That was one way to treat your apprentice. "Let's go then..." Anacondawhisker seemed exhausted but the three cats didn't think much of it as they left camp and entered a clearing with a small pool in the far corner.

"We'll start with..."

Training seemed to last forever and Anacondawhisker had continued to ramble on about hunting until it was almost dusk which resulted in her excusing them all to go sleep and not hunt. Frozenwing said otherwise. "Great Spirits Anacondawhisker, just because you're older then these apprentices doesn't mean you're than me, these cats are hunting whether you like it or not" The former queen hissed, the mentor looked away with a familiar eye roll. "Roll your eyes again and we'll have issues"

Anacondawhisker bristled and the two apprentices stepped away from the older cats. "Keep talking old fleabag and you'll join Sunpaw in the medicine den" She snarled, Frozenwing didn't like that very much it seemed and she lunged forward pinning down the lesser warrior. "I've had more battle experience, hunting experience, *surviving experience*, I have lived *longer* than you!" Frozenwing's tail lashed back and forth as she pressed Anacondawhisker's head down to the hard ground. "Respect that's what is-" She was cut off as a white she-cat with braided orange stripes covering her body leapt from the undergrowth and barreled into Frozenwing.

Shrieks erupted from the wrestling cats as Anacondawhisker seemed to forget the apprentices were even there and attacked Frozenwing along with the rouge, she proceeded to run at the cats and shoved the warrior off who only pounced on her instead.

Glowpaw struggled beneath the she-cats grip as she started to panic, her swipes at the female slowly quickening and stretching

out more as she tried to slash her skin but caught nothing but tufts of fur that barley did anything to Anacondawhisker. There was a traitor in LushClan and one was going to get exiled, Glowpaw knew it and so did the she-cat on top of her. This time her claws finally hooked onto the warrior and she made a good sized slash on her stomach making her yowl out in pain. Before she knew it the weight of the she-cat was lifted, she was able to roll over and get onto all four of her paws. Shaking her pelt she turned around and saw Frozenwing was just able to pull Anacondawhisker off before being slammed into the ground.

She wanted to cry out in horror as Anacondawhisker slashed her throat and shook the blood all over the rouge and Glowpaw before backing away pretending she was the one who had been attacked, the apprentice was confused for only a moment when she heard a sharp breath. Turning around there was Frogstar with Darkclaw, the slowest smile crept up the deputy's face as he whispers something to Frogstar.

The leader barely had time to react, Darkclaw bit down on the back of his neck and tore away, blood splattered all over the place, Glowpaw felt sick and stumbled back. Soon more cats arrived and they watched as Glowpaw trembled along with Anacondawhisker's fake look of fear and Darkclaw's distraught facial expressions. Meanwhile Flowerpaw and the rouge were close together with confusion in their eyes. A throat cleared, Darkclaw raised his chin and spat out the words Glowpaw dreaded.

"Flowerpaw and that rouge... killed Frozenwing and... Frogstar"

Chapter Six

Glowpaw had re-entered camp, her wounds were cleaned and so was Anacondawhisker's. Darkclaw laid her two dead clanmates in the center with the elder's help before leaping onto the Fallen Tree. Once more like a leader he called out the ancient words Frogstar had used to symbolize a meeting.

"All cats old enough to hunt gather around the Fallen Tree to hear what I have to say!" His yowl rang out and his eyes blazed with anticipation like he was awaiting this moment. "Frozenwing and Frogstar were killed by an unknown rogue and to our greatest despair... Flowerpaw" When the new leader ended his sentence a heartbroken shriek ran through the clearing, Glowpaw's mother, Sweetcloud surged from the crowd and toward the center and crouched next to Frozenwing. The two had been best friends but Darkclaw only growled in annoyance. "Take Sweetcloud back to the spare den to let her grieve, now I have chosen wisely for this and I hope the '*Great Spirits* ' approve of my choice... Anacondawhisker will take the place as the new deputy of LushClan!" Darkclaw announced but if you listened closely like Glowpaw did he had spat out the Great Spirit's name like a piece of rotten prey.

"Tonight I shall head to the Star River to gain my nine lives and name but overall clan dismissed" Darkclaw waved his tail and jumped off the tree before beckoning Glowpaw with a sharp jerk of his muzzle from her to his den, not wanting to be murdered she followed and sat a decent distance away.

"You know what truly happened but i'm not going to kill you if you don't tell the clan what Anacondawhisker or *I* did, got that?" He hissed, the younger cat nodded quickly, a pit yawning open in her stomach. "Good now go rest in your den i'll get you a new mentor another time" His tail was still lashing slowly as Glowpaw left his

den and went straight to the apprentices den and cowered in the corner.

She didn't know how long she was there for all she knew was that her legs were cramping, flashbacks kept coming back, LushClan was doomed. Glowpaw had known it ever since Darkclaw ascended to leadership, the day he killed Frogstar, the day Flowerpaw was framed...

She was so deep into her thoughts that she didn't hear Flickerpaw enter the den. It was only the toms voice that made her realize he was there. "Are you ok? I heard everything about Flowerpaw and Frozenwing..." Glowpaw glanced up and looked straight at him. "I'm fine-" She choked out, her voice obviously showing she wasn't. Flickerpaw sighed in response and he shook his head.

"Talk to me when you're ready, I know you've been through a lot" He curled up in his nest, it wasn't till around midnight when Glowpaw fell asleep too...

...

Glowpaw up the next morning tired, she felt like she hadn't slept at all. She looked ahead, sunlight dappling the ground as she slowly lifted herself onto her paws and left the den. The camp was deserted apart from the elders, Featherleap, and some other warriors. The apprentice headed straight for the medicine cats den and peered inside, Stemshine wasn't there but Sunpaw was, he was fast asleep, the cobwebs that covered him made him look like he had more white fur the the mottled brown coat he always usually had. Glowpaw left the medicine cats den and decided to leave camp as well after seeing he brother.

She looked at the towering jungle trees, everything seemed so empty without her siblings. Glowpaw scanned the canopy before continuing on her walk through the jungle. That's when she heard hushed voices talking from far away, she crouched down and approached the voices only to notice it was the voice of the rogue Darkclaw had talked too before he became leader. It was another conversation between him at that rogue.

"So you're *Darkstar* now? Neat." The rogue chuckled. "Indeed, it wasn't hard to shut up Glowpaw either, just a quick old threat and there you go shes quiet" Darkstar seemed to laugh at Glowpaw's cowardly actions when he spoke. "I'm sure Adder will be satisfied with this, he wasn't so happy that you hadn't taken full leadership yet but i'm sure he will be now"

"Wonderful..." Darkstar purred. "Before I leave don't forget there's a high chance he'll come to your camp with a couple of his cats just to watch over I guess- farewell *Darkstar*" The rogue's voice became low but that was enough to symbolize that Glowpaw should go which she most literally did. First she back away a couple of tail lengths before taking a full run back to camp.

When she got back she watched as each patrol returned like everything was normal. But to her everything wasn't, Glowpaw went to the hidden pathway and climbed up the hill and looked down at the camp wondering what the Great Spirits and life had in store for her next...

Chapter Seven

Glowpaw snapped back to reality just as she heard loud chirping from the crickets that resided deep in the jungle, she stood up and scaled down the slope before squeezing herself back into the apprentice den. She wove through the nests before curling up in her own and drifting to sleep.

She awoke to soft light streaming through the leaves and vines that made up the Apprentices Den, she slowly lifted her head up and blinked before pushing herself up onto her paws. She padded out of the den, her mind set on trying to figure out what the conversation last night even meant. Glowpaw was greeted by Flickerpaw by the fresh-kill pile, his eyes were bright and cheerful something she possibly thought meant he was trying to make her feel happy herself.

"Glowpaw! You weren't awake but Darkstar said someone is coming to our clan to chat! Isn't it exciting?" Flickerpaw seemed to be bouncing up and down. "I guess" Glowpaw forced a smile, she already knew there was a cat coming and that cat wouldn't be alone. "I can't wait to meet them! I wonder what they're like" He giggled, sounding like a young kit despite his age. She just nodded in return, "Anyways Darkstar said I have to go hunting before I meet any cat" Flickerpaw sighed. Glowpaw just nodded again not feeling up to talk that go on for a bit, "You better get going then I have a feeling Darkstar might claw off your ears if he found out you were talking instead of hunting" She forced a humorous attitude. "True true, i'll get going! See you later Glowpaw!" He bounded away towards the camp exit.

She tilted her head, wondering when in the world did Darkstar start sending out apprentices without a warrior. She shook off the feeling that they didn't have enough warriors to begin with but all her thoughts were thrown away when Anacondawhisker's voice hit her back to reality. "Are you going to just stand there like a blind kit! Glowpaw come with me Darkstar has chosen you to be the first one

to do battle training with our guest." Apparently the guest and his cats had arrived already, she questioned how long she stood there looking dazed and confused. Glowpaw followed Anacondawhisker out of camp and to an open area where a towering tom-cat stood. "You must be Glowpaw, Darkstar has spoken about your fighting skills recently but now i'm here to properly teach your clan on how to fight" The Tom raised his head, one yellow eye, one amber eye. That seemed unique but she decided not to speak about it. "Glowpaw this is Adder he'll be the one training you today since I have to go sort matters in camp" Anacondawhisker turned away after that, leaving Glowpaw and the rouge known as Adder in the clearing.

The training was brutal, every time the rouge wanted to duel it always ended up with her getting thrown down to the ground. Every time she stayed down for more then 10 seconds resulted in him snarling 'Dead, you couldn't get up fast enough' eventually she was getting the hang of it, dodging and swiping when there was an opening. That's when she saw it, all the times Adder had thrown her to the ground made her hiss with anger, an opening at his throat. She lunged forward taking the chance, barreling over the large tom, she bit down lightly on his throat before she was kicked off once more by his hindlegs. "You noticed the opening, good now you should learn how to properly kill" Adder grinned, it looked cursed like someone had starved him half to death. Glowpaw didn't feel like learning how to properly kill a cat but the tom was already going through different methods. The normal one, a killing bite where you simply dig your teeth into their throat or you do a normal slash. The next one was where you seemed to rip apart the others chest until they eventually died of blood loss which seemed horrifying if you did see it.

After learning most offensive moves Adder moved on to defensive moves where you could easily turn it back to offense. He lifted himself onto his hind paws before slamming his front paws down, explaining how that could be used to easily stun the enemy, an add on for the move was trying to tuck your tail between your legs so the enemy couldn't quite unbalance you unless you were completely shoved over. The move was complex but seemed quite simple once you knew it, all you had to learn was to stay balanced and firm

while on your hindlegs and have good precision when coming back down.

As the day turned to noon Glowpaw was finally let out of the rough training, it had gotten easier once she learned the moves and she walked back into camp with confidence despite her wounds. Plenty of cats stared, she didn't care, she was hungry. Glowpaw swiftly took a piece of prey off the pile and stalked over to the apprentice's den, getting down in a loaf position before digging into the corpse of the bird, easily spitting out excess feathers. She didn't see Flickerpaw, which was probably a good sign because he would probably fuss over her wounds and try to get her to the medicine den but who needed that when the medicine cat already rushed over holding some herbs.

"Great Spirits Glowpaw! I heard you were injured during your training but I didn't known it was this bad, your wounds are so deep-" She licked each wound before applying poultice and cobweb, continuing until all her wounds were dressed. Glowpaw hissed at Stemshine afterwards, she felt a bit empty like the training had made her colder and less happy. "I was fine" She bared her teeth before biting down into the prey, before Stemshine could counter Adder's voice cut through the air. "Stemshine didn't you hear her, Glowpaw is fine about how she is" The medicine cat nodded, scurrying away.

"Glowpaw tomorrow you have to toughen up Quailpaw she's becoming a warrior apprentice and *we* need to train her well" Adder dipped his head, Glowpaw only nodded in return. He turned away and padded over to Anacondawhisker sitting beside her to chat, Glowpaw finished her meal and stalked inside the apprentice's den, curling up into her nest and sitting there, watching as Flickerpaw ducked in and sighed, he probably thought she was sleeping. Glowpaw was pretty sure that was a good thing, she didn't feel up for talking especially since she got the news of Quailpaw being moved to a warrior apprentice.

Speaking of Quailpaw, the former medicine cat apprentice entered the den. "Hey Glowpaw? I know your not sleeping-" She was cut off, "What do you want.." Glowpaw interrupted, voice raspy and rough. "I-I'm sorry but Darkstar forced me to be a warrior apprentice and I

was told to stay near you until Darkstar or Anacondawhisker says its okay- besides that where do I sleep?" Quailpaw stammered. "Anywhere that doesn't smell like a cat's fur" Glowpaw grumbled, slowly closing her eyes and tiredness slowly engulfed her. Her vision shadowed as she slowly fell asleep, the last thing she heard was Quailpaw shuffling through the nests and laying somewhere in the back.

Chapter Eight

As the sun rose and lit up the camp, Glowpaw awoke and simply left the den, sitting in the clearing. She decided to groom her fur, giving her chest a couple licks before licking her paw and passing it over her ear. She watched as the rest of the clan padded out of their dens, Adder emerged eventually and walked over. "Go wake up Quailpaw" His voice was rough and raspy, Glowpaw heaved herself onto her paws and stalked over to the apprentice's den. Peaking her head in she called into the musky, shadowed den. "Quailpaw? Come on we have training" She hissed, there was a groan in response but then a lump of fur heaved themselves onto their paws and made their way towards her.

Quailpaw yawned and padded after Glowpaw, the two shes made it back to Adder who took them out of camp, back to the roughed up clearing where he and Glowpaw trained yesterday. Adder swiveled around, "Alright Quailpaw, you and Glowpaw are going to be training together, Glowpaw will catch you up on what you missed yesterday" Quailpaw nodded quickly in response, probably intimidated by the large tom.

As Adder turned away Glowpaw focused on Quailpaw. "First you'll have to learn on how to balance on your hind legs, like this-" She pushed herself off her frontpaws and onto her hind paws, tucking her tail between her legs. Quailpaw's eyes glowed with excitement as she tried herself, pushing herself off her front paws like Glowpaw did, stumbling a bit but used her tail to help balance her weight. "Now try tucking in your tail between your legs" Quailpaw tilted her head, "But i'll lose balance-" "That's why practice counts" Glowpaw interrupted the former medicine cat apprentice's complaint. She continued to try to balance herself each time but stumbled and either fell or gave up.

That's when Adder intervened, biting into Quailpaw's tail and making her fall before he easily pinned her with a paw to the throat. "Dead! Right there" He spat. "Do you not understand the

importance of learning this, Glowpaw was able to learn it in only a couple of tries and here you are" Quailpaw flattened her ears, "I-I-I'm sorry s-sir i'll t-" "Save it, your useless, Glowpaw go harder on her" Adder hissed, Glowpaw nodded in return to Adder's order.

Glowpaw taught Quailpaw some offensive moves before telling her to try on her. Quailpaw lunged forward, to slow, Glowpaw moved to the side and grabbed the other she's throat, wrenching her around and tossing her. "Oww.." Quailpaw groaned. "Dead, you took to long to get up" Glowpaw spoke the words she heard too many times from Adder. Quailpaw pushed herself up wincing before lunging again, once more too slow as Glowpaw maneuvered to the side, twisting around and tackling the she. "Dead again"

Quailpaw slowly got the hang of it and was able to tackle Glowpaw once or twice. "Now we're moving on to killing moves you'll need to learn them" Glowpaw demonstrated them as she explained what they did, Quailpaw stared in horror as she explained them. "But we're warriors- we don't kill-" Adder hissed from the shadows "Pathetic, its kill or be killed, no exceptions" He hissed, Quailpaw only nodded quickly, shaking slightly. Glowpaw watched as Quailpaw slowly got the moves down.

The time they back to camp, Quailpaw was bruised and limping slightly. Stemshine rushed over in a panic, "Adder I said go easy-" She hissed. "Like I care, these cats should be in shape" He rolled his eyes, scoffing at Stemshine's concerns. "But anyways when is Sunpaw going to be ready? I've been waiting for him to 'heal' for forever, don't tell me he's being a coward" Adder bared his teeth. "He isn't being a coward! His wounds were severe it takes time, you should know with that massive scar on your back" She retorted. Glowpaw watched the two bickered before Adder hissed. "Come on Glowpaw we have better things to do" He lashed his tail as he walked away, Glowpaw followed slowly, Stemshine giving her a hurt look as she watched. The two went to Darkstar's den, Adder sat down and Glowpaw followed after sitting a beside the tall tom.

"Hello Darkstar.." Adder spoke in a rough voice, Darkstar dipped his head. "Hello Adder, and hello to you Glowpaw. What do you two want?" His tail moved slowly across the ground behind him, he lowered his head giving Adder a sharp look. "I like to say Glowpaw

has toughened up, you should have more faith Darkstar" The towering rouge raised his chin in a proud way. "Like I would ever have faith in her, shes probably faking it" The LushClan leader retorted, Glowpaw's ears tilted back slightly in offense but she was silenced as Adder pushed her back with is bushy tail as if and order to leave, she did but she hid in a bush just outside of the leader's den so she could continue to hear their conversation.

"If you don't like Glowpaw give her to me I'm sure she'd like it there" Adder hissed. "And give you another cat not a chance" Darkstar retorted. "You're just scared, scared of everything, even your own allies. It's your job to get your clanmates to trust you but with you being openly distasteful in cats probably makes your puny clan dislike you more, watch out Darkstar, the cats you lead may turn on you" The rouge leader argued back, there was no reply, the towering tom left the den, going straight to Anacondawhisker to chat. Glowpaw managed to sneak around the outskirts of camp back to the apprentice den where she spotted Quailpaw talking to Flickerpaw, she hoped to not get noticed until Flickerpaw probably spotted her bright pelt. "Oh Glowpaw! I was wondering what happened when I saw you go in the leaders den with one of the guests" He smiled, it wasn't that real but it wasn't fake either, Flickerpaw wasn't telling the whole part of the story. "What did Quailpaw slither into your ears" She sat down near the pair, he flattened his ears. "She was telling me about how rough you were with her during your guy's training, is it true that your learning rouge moves?" He admitted, Glowpaw scowled at the former medicine cat apprentice. "Yes it's true, the other guests are teaching the warriors, Adder made the apprentices his personal training group.. how have you not been invited to training?"

"Darkstar says I don't need that training, his training is better" He huffed, lashing his tail. "I'm missing all the good stuff aren't I..." "I wouldn't call it good stuff, it's painful" Quailpaw winced as she probably remembered how rough the training was. "It's not that painful once you get the hang of it" Glowpaw remarked. "Well its not my fault I'm not used to warrior training, I was about to become a full medicine cat until Darkstar stopped into the medicine den complaining that he needed more apprentices then talked with Stemshine for a bit before he told me I wasn't going to learn herbs

anymore" She retorted. "And before you retaliate Glowpaw you aren't very nice at all"

That hurt, she barely knew Quailpaw, she stood up and left. Only hearing Flickerpaw's shocked voice split through the air as he argued back with the apprentice. "You can't say that! She's lost almost everything!" Quailpaw snapped back, "Like who!"

"Let's just say Sunpaw is the last one she has left and he's sitting in the medicine den and we have no idea if he'll ever wake up."

Glowpaw muffled their argument and curled up in her moss nest. At least Flickerpaw defended her, that was nice, she hated when he used the fact she lost Flowerpaw, Frozenwing, her mother, her father, her trust in her clanmates. The bickering died down, Quailpaw slowly walked into the den muttering, "Sorry Glowpaw I didn't know.."

Chapter Nine

Glowpaw woke up to a rough jab, she lifted her head, it was Adder. He turned away and stalked out of the den, she pushed herself to her paws and followed behind him, it was only then she realized it was dawn. Her and Adder left the camp, traveling to the clearing where Glowpaw had learned everything in fighting she knows so far.

Adder turned around swiftly, "Glowpaw today we continue your training" He said gruffly.

Glowpaw could only nod in return, the rouge showed step by step how to perform the first battle move she was going to learn today. Get down in a hunters crouch, launch yourself above your enemy, and the twist yourself around so you're facing them. It took a while for her to get the twisting part down but she eventually got it, next thing she knew she was leaping over a cat three times her size, she twisted her body before she was fully facing Adder, once she landed she added her own twist and pushed back off her hind paws barreling straight into the large tom.

"You could do that, if the cat is to slow to turn you can easily catch them off-guard" Adder heaved himself to his paws, nodding in approval.

Training went on till it was almost dusk, Glowpaw was starving, Adder eventually sent her back to camp. She was equipped with fresh new bruises and scratches, Quailpaw only froze when she saw her as well as the cat she was sitting next to, Featherleap she remembered the queen's name. The light gray she blinked at her pelt, Glowpaw didn't care, she grabbed a lizard from the prey pile and swiftly took it the apprentice's den.

"Glowpaw!" Flickerpaw bounded over sitting beside her. "You look

roughed up-"

"Yeah I know, at least I learned some stuff today though, Quailpaw didn't come to train" Glowpaw sighed, eating the lizard slowly.

"Apparently she asked if she could take normal training with me and Darkstar she was sent to train with Falconcall and Ravinepaw instead" Flickerpaw cast a glance over at Ravinepaw who was proudly sitting beside his mentor. Glowpaw huffed in return, continuing to eat and then finish her meal.

"Darkstar and Adder have also been planning to start training fights where a group of warriors attend to learn, apprentices included.. I can't wait to see you fight" He grinned sweeping away the lizard bones she spat out with his paw.

"Yeah yeah.." She sighed turning her head, it was getting darker. "I'm going to sleep, I have to heal my wounds somehow and sitting around won't help"

"Of course, Sleep well!" Flickerpaw waved goodbye with his tail, Glowpaw slunk in the den heading straight to her nest, curling up and closing her eyes.

Glowpaw was roughly nudged just like yesterday, she pulled herself to her paws slowly before shaking her pelt out. Adder led her out of the den where a large group of cats were sitting on one side of the camp, the rouge sent her to sit with the apprentices as Darkstar leapt up onto the Fallen Tree. "Let all cats old enough to hunt gather beneath the Fallen Tree to hear what I have to say!" That familiar call that she always heard, and whatever the cat on that rock said always dreaded her.

"Today we begin our training fights, the cats that will be attending are Adder, Bumbletail, Glowpaw, Whiskerpaw, Ravinepaw, Anacondawhisker, Falconcall, and Stemshine" Darkstar spoke off the cats names, each with disgust. "The rest of you will go hunting"

"Darkstar! I am a medicine cat, no fighter you cannot put me in this fighting pantherdung" Stemshine stood up quickly. "Plus I must care for Sunpaw, he is almost well however if you want another

apprentice to add to your group you cannot make me fight" She hissed.

"Fine then we'll have Brackenclaw replace you, he should learn some fighting moves to defend himself" The dark-pelted leader growled, Brackenclaw only raised his head slowly. He was sitting beside the blind Mousetail who was too old to do anything but eat prey and tell stories. Stemshine cast a worried glance towards the two elders, Darkstar began to lash his tail impatiently.

"Get to training" He barked before bounding off the Fallen Tree and into the shadows of his den. Adder flicked his tail, gathering the cats before heading out to the clearing.

Glowpaw absolutely hated Darkstar and how he turned out to be, she could tell other cats hated him too, she trailed after the group that had gathered together and left. The moment the gathering of cats got to the familiar clearing Adder began to rant on how weak they all looked, he eventually got to the part in which they had to pair up to do something, Adder chose me.. of course he did.. the pairs were Ravinepaw and Whiskerpaw, Brackenclaw and Bumbletail, and Andacondawhisker and Falconcall.

Adder explained the move before demonstrating it, Glowpaw was prepared, she had already learned this. As he easily glided through the air towards her she pushed herself off her front paws and as Adder landed she easily slammed back down right before he could push back up and topple her over. Cats murmurs silenced as he hissed in frustration and curved around to attack from the side, she wasn't able to evade this one, he landed full force on her side slamming her down. Glowpaw maneuvered her head and bit down on his ankle, hissing again he backed away.

"Just fight each other with that first move I did, take turns, learn.. you know" Adder huffed, probably still annoyed on how well she managed to keep up with his attacks. The other cats separated to their own areas, she caught some notice of what they were saying..

"Glowpaw was able to manage him?"

"Shocking such a *weak* apprentice could do that"

"She's just a show off.."

The rest of the training went slightly well, Whiskerpaw had 'accidentally' kicked dirt and missed only to hit Adder right in the side of the face. The rogue was not that happy then and now he and Whiskerpaw were sitting in Darkstar's den probably in an argument that would last a while. Glowpaw sat near the apprentice's den, doing her best to avoid any gaze, Flickerpaw approached her from the side.

'Glowpaw? It's almost night, want to head up to the cliff side with me?' His mew was low but noticeable, she sighed and nodded and return.

Flickerpaw and her climbed up the slope and made it to the overhang so they were looking down at the camp. There was barely a noise up on the cliff side, the only thing that was possibly heard was the gossip of cats and the loud noises of the jungle behind them. That was until Flickerpaw spoke through the silence that had been hanging heavy.

'Glowpaw.. i've been noticing your distance from me and I'm wondering if you're okay' He sighed, Glowpaw let out a breath she didn't know she was holding. 'I'm fine'

'I can tell you're not'

'I am'

'Just tell me'

'**Fine**'

Glowpaw curled her tail over her paws before speaking. 'When Adder was made to mentor me he made me believe I was fighting because my clan was weak and unable to defend themselves, at first I did my best to not make my body change it didn't work, I was too young, too snakebrained, I fell into an endless hole that I don't know if I can get out of..'

'I'm sure your in that hole not only because of Adder but ever since your father died your mother had become cold and hated your

brother because he reminded her of Roottail, they're using your grief as a way to change you, you cannot let that happen' Flickerpaw meowed, his words his hard, it was true Sunpaw was all she had left and right now he was sitting in the medicine den, okay but healing. But the mention of her father who died before she could memorize his pelt hit the hardest, Glowpaw was always told how similar the two toms were but it seemed to never had gotten to her.

'If we're speaking truths.. Flowerpaw has been crushing on you since she was a kit' She sighed staring up at the now appearing stars.

'I've always caught her looking at me sometimes but now she was accused of murder and exiled.. she can't come back' Flickerpaw sighed along with Glowpaw, he didn't seem that surprised considering he probably could guess by her behavior.

'Its getting late I should go to my nest' Flickerpaw yawned after a bit of silence. 'I'll be right after you' She dipped her head to the Tom, she gazed at the stars again, wondering if her father was up there. She only stayed for a few more moments before she turned and followed Flickerpaw back to the apprentice's den with only two things on her mind. *Revenge and a plan.*